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The Applicant appreciates the thorough review of the Application by the Examiner and the indication of allowable subject matter. Allowance of all claims as amended is respectfully requested. By this Amendment, Claim 1 has been canceled, Claims 2 - 4 and 6 - 12 have been amended, and new claims 13 - 17 have been added. Claims 2 - 17 are now pending in the application.

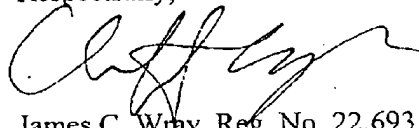
No new matter has been added by the amendment. No new issues are raised by the amendment. Allowable Claim 6 has been placed in independent form and the other claims have been amended to depend from it. The subject matter of Claim 1 that was incorporated into Claim 6 has been changed to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph rejection on Page 2 of the Office Action. Claims 3 and 12 have also been amended to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph rejections on Page 2 of the Office Action and new Claims 13-15 depend from those claims and include subject matter canceled from Claims 3 and 12 in the amendment. New Claim 16 incorporates the subject matter of allowable Claim 4 and is written in independent form, and New Claim 17 incorporates the subject matter of Claim 5 and depends from Claim 16.

Although Applicant disagrees with the prior art rejection, in the interest of expediting prosecution Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice and without disclaimer and the claims have been amended to rewrite them in independent form or to make them depend from subject matter that has been indicated to be allowable. It is believed that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Should the next action be anything other than a Notice of Allowance, Applicant respectfully requests the favor of a telephone call to the undersigned to resolve any remaining issues.

CONCLUSION

Allowance of all claims as amended is respectfully requested.

Respectfully,



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